

**BOARD LETTER – SUMMARY SHEET
HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CLUSTER**

AGENDA REVIEW	05/02/12
BOARD MEETING	05/15/12
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT	All SD
DEPARTMENT	Mental Health (MH)
SUBJECT	Approval to Extend a Sole Source Services Agreement with Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc. (MHAS) for FY 2012-13.
PROGRAM	Will extend the term of the Agreement with MHAS for the first six months of FY 2012-13.
DEADLINES	None
COST & FUNDING	Total cost of the contract extension - \$202,450, fully funded with Sales Tax Realignment revenue.
PURPOSE OF REQUEST	Delegated authority to MH Director to execute an Amendment with MHAS to extend the contract for the period of July 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.
SUMMARY/ ISSUES (Briefly summarize program and potential issues or concerns. Identify changes, if any, to level of funding or staffing; how funding will be utilized and why best use; prior accomplishments; and for BLs involving contracts, also note changes to the contract term.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplemental Security Income (SSI) advocacy plays an important role in helping people with mental disabilities become eligible for benefits. For Department of Mental Health clients who are unable to work due to their disability, SSI becomes one of the few sources of income available for this population. The SSI application process is cumbersome and complex for many people with mental illness, and MHAS has become an entity known for its ability to retain experienced and knowledgeable advocates who are able to successfully assist the mentally ill population in obtaining and maintaining their SSI payments. • MHAS is a non-profit organization that provides legal services for people with mental and developmental disabilities. MHAS also offers education and legal advocacy for low-income parents of disabled school-aged children to access Special Education services which they are entitled to under federal and State laws.
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